

REMARKS:

- 1) The Examiner is respectfully requested to approve the corrected formal drawings that were filed on January 2, 2003.
- 2) The Examiner's attention is directed to the Information Disclosure Statement of September 10, 2003. Please consider the references and return an initialed, signed and dated acknowledgment copy of the Form PTO-1449 of September 10, 2003.
- 3) The Examiner's attention is further directed to another Information Disclosure Statement being filed together with the present Response. Please consider the references and return an initialed, signed and dated acknowledgment copy of the Form PTO-1449 of December 17, 2003.
- 4) The claims have been amended as follows.

A minor editorial revision has been made in the preamble of claims 20 to 24.

Claims 25 and 26 have been amended from independent form into dependent form, so that these claims now depend from claim 17.

New claims 27 to 30 have been added, depending from claim 17.

New independent claim 31 and claims 32 to 39 depending therefrom have been added.

The new claims are supported by the original disclosure according to the following table, and do not introduce any new matter.

New Claims	27	28	29	30	31	32
Original Support	Figs.1-15	Figs.2-4,7	Figs.3,7	Figs.3,4,7	Figs.1-15	Figs.2,3,7,9,10,11,15

New Claims	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
Original Support	Figs.2,3,7	Figs.12-15	Figs.9-11	Figs.2,3,7,9-15	Figs.2,7,8,15	Figs.1,2,3,8,9,10,15	Figs.6,7,8,11

Entry and consideration of the claim amendments and the new claims are respectfully requested.

- 5) Referring to section 1 on page 2 of the Office Action, withdrawal of the Finality of the previous Office Action is appreciated.
- 6) Referring to section 2 on pages 2 to 3 of the Office Action, applicant hereby elects the first embodiment or first Species relating to Figs. 1 to 8 for examination.
- 7) After the present amendment, the claims that read on the elected embodiment of Figs. 1 to 8 are claims 17, 18, 27 to 33 and 36 to 39.
- 8) Among the claims reading on the elected embodiment, at least claims 17, 18, 27, 31, 32 and 36 are generic to all of the identified Species or embodiments, except for the seventh embodiment relating to Fig. 16.

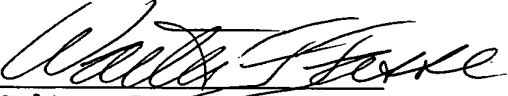
- 9) In the event a generic claim is ultimately found allowable, the Examiner is respectfully requested to rejoin, consider, and allow any claims that depend from such an allowable generic claim and that are directed to the non-elected Species.
- 10) The Examiner's assertion that claim 17 is not a generic claim is respectfully traversed. Since claim 17 is an independent claim, and claims 18 to 26 (as well as new claims 27 to 30) properly depend therefrom, it is apparent that claim 17 is generic to claims 18 to 26 (and 27 to 30). It is not relevant that claims 22 and 23 do not read on other Species such as claims 19 and 22, because it is not asserted that claims 20 and 23 are generic relative to claims 19 and 22. It is merely asserted that claim 17 is generic to claims 20 and 23 as well as claims 19 and 22.
- 11) The Examiner's assertion that the original disclosure does not describe a housing having both a wing and a locking pawl is also respectfully traversed. In this regard, the Examiner's attention is directed to the original description at page 16, line 25 to page 17, line 20, which expressly and clearly explains that "The present invention includes all embodiments wherein features of the embodiments described above are combined. The fitting forms of the first embodiment, the fitting forms of the second embodiment, and the fitting forms of the third embodiment can be combined..." (etc.). Thus, the combinations challenged by the Examiner are originally disclosed in the written description.

- 12) Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application, including all present claims 17 to 39, are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Applicant

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Encls.: postcard, Term
Extension Request, Form
PTO-2038, IDS, Form PTO-1449,
14 reference copies

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING:

I hereby certify that this correspondence with all indicated enclosures is being deposited with the U. S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail, in an envelope addressed to: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

 12/17/03
Name: Walter F. Fasse - Date: December 17, 2003